

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 NEA-10 IO-13 ACDA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9558

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

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CSAF WASHDC//AFINA/SSA

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SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY - OCT 5

1. HIGHLIGHTS:

-- U.S. NEWS IS LIGHT, BUT NEGATIVE.

-- PRAVDA CARRIES FULL TEXT OF SOVIET STATEMENT TO UN ON WORLD ECONOMIC SITUATION WHICH SAYS, IN ESSENCE, THAT "IMPERIALISTS" AND "MONOPOLISTS" ARE TO BLAME FOR LDC ECONOMIC PROBLEMS, THAT SOVIETS AND OTHER "SOCIALIST" COUNTRIES SUPPORT LDC EFFORTS TO RIGHT PAST WRONGS (INCLUDING THE NIEO), AND THAT IN ANY CASE SOVIETS REJECT ANY SUGGESTION THAT THEY SHOULD BE LUMPED TOGETHER WITH "IMPERIALISTS." IZVESTIYA'S "INTERNATIONAL COMMENTARY," BY R. TUCHNIN, DISCUSSES THE RECENT MEXICO CITY CONFERENCE ON LDC ECONOMIC QUESTIONS, STRESSING THE LDC'S JUST DEMANDS.

-- ALL MEDIA CARRY FIRST REPORTS OF SOCIALIST-FREE DEMOCRAT VICTORY IN FRG ELECTIONS. COLLECTIVE SIGH OAA CORRESPONDENT WHO NOTED THAT "CLOSE AND DISTANT NEIGHBORS" OF FRG WERE "NOT COMPLETELY INDIFFERENT" TO WHICH OF TWO FACTIONS WILL DIRECT INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL COURSE OF COUNTRY. LINE TAKEN IS THAT, DESPITE ENORMOUS EFFORTS BY RIGHT WING CDU/CSU FORCES, VOTERS OF FRG CHOSE CONTINUATION OF EASTERN POLICY AND DETENTE. APART FROM MENTION OF PERCENTAGES
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AND EIGHT SEAT MAJORITY FOR GOVERNMENT PARTIES, NO COMMENT MADE ON CLOSENESS OF RESULTS.

-- PRAVDA AND IZVESTIYA REPORT GROMYKO IN BRUSSELS ON OFFICIAL VISIT BY QUOTING HIS ARRIVAL STATEMENT THAT TALKS WILL COVER MATTERS OF BILATERAL INTEREST AND INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS. PRAVDA ALSO CARRIES SHORT ITEM ON HIS MEETING WITH PM TINDEMANS.

-- "COMMENTATOR'S COLUMN" IN PRAVDA DEVOTED TO GLOOMY ASSESSMENT OF BRITISH ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL SITUATION AND DIVISIONS IN LABOR PARTY ON DEALING WITH THEM. IN THE END, ACCORDING TO VSEVOLOD OVCHINNIKOV IN LONDON, GOVERNMENT MEASURES TO CORRECT PROBLEMS WILL FALL HARDEST ON WORKERS.

-- KZ DESCRIBES VISIT OF CANADIAN NAVAL SQUADRON TO LENINGRAD.

-- PRAVDA AND KZ CARRY REPORTS OF CONTINUED FIGHTING IN LEBANON INVOLVING SYRIAN TROOPS. SYRIAN TROOP CONCENTRATION NEAR SIDON IS REPORTED. SYRIAN IS DESCRIBED AS HAVING "IMPORTANT STRATEGIC SIGNIFICANCE" FOR "NATIONAL PATRIOTIC FORCES" AND PALESTINE RESISTANCE MOVEMENT. JUMBLATT ARRIVAL IN PARIS IS NOTED.

-- SHORT BUT NASTY ATTACK ON EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT IS CONTAINED IN TASS CAIRO ARTICLE ON ANTI-SOVIET PRESS CAMPAIGN IN "REACTIONARY" EGYPTIAN PRESS (E.G., AL AKHBAR). CAMPAIGN, WAGED WITH "CONNIVANCE (POPUSTITEL STVO)" OF GOVERNMENT OF EGYPT, SAYS ARTICLE, REFLECTS ANTI-SOVIET TENDENCY OF REACTIONARY CIRCLES OF EGYPT AND IS WITNESS TO FACT THAT "POLICY OF PRESENT LEADERSHIP OF EGYPT GOES AGAINST GENUINE INTERESTS OF EGYPTIAN PEOPLE AND THE PEOPLES OF OTHER ARAB COUNTRIES."

-- PRAVDA AND IZVESTIYA MENTION ARRIVAL IN MOSCOW OCT 4 OF SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE PM MIGUEL TROVADA.

-- PRAVDA AND IZVESTIYA CARRY TASS REPORT OF INTERVIEW WHICH ANGOLAN PRESIDENT NETO GAVE UNIDENTIFIED OFFICIAL USE

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FIELD SOVIET JOURNALISTS IN LUANDA. NETO SAID HE HOPED THAT ANGOLA WOULD HAVE A COMMON VIEWPOINT WITH SOVIET UNION IN FUTURE ON IMPORTANT INTERNATIONAL QUESTIONS.

-- IZVESTIYA AND KZ CARRY SHORT TASS REPORT FROM TOKYO CALLED "UNFRIENDLY LINE CONTINUES" WHICH SPEAKS OF "EXPERIMENTS" WITH THE SOVIET PLANE TO OBTAIN "STRATEGIC DATA." PRAVDA REPORTS THAT A SOVIET "GROUP OF IDEOLOGICAL WORKERS," LED BY A.F. RUMYANTSEV, A MEMBER OF THE CPSU'S CENTRAL AUDITING COMMISSION, RETURNED FROM JAPAN WHERE THEY VISIT AT THE INVITATION OF THE JSP.

-- PRAVDA REPORTS THAT LAOTIAN DELEGATION LED BY PARTY AND GOVERNMENT CHIEF KAYSONE PHOMVIHAN ARRIVED

IN MOSCOW FROM WARSAW ON OCTOBER 4. THE LAOTIANS WERE MET BY THE FIRST DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE CPSU INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DIVISION, V.V. ZAGLADIN, AND BY MFA SECRETARY-GENERAL YU. N. CHERNYAKOV.

2. U.S. COVERAGE IN LIGHT IN VOLUME NEGATIVE IN TONE:

-- KZ HAS A "RETORT" BY V. CHURSONOV ON U.S. ARMS ASSISTANCE TO HILE. ARTICLE MENTIONS PROPAGANDA BOOST JUNTA EXPLOITED WITH DELIVERY OF F-4'S AND ALSO MENTIONS SENATOR KENNEDY'S OPPOSITION TO SUCH U.S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE.

-- CENTRAL PRESS CARRIES SHORT NOTICE OF SHOOTING OF SOVIET EMBASSY EMPLOYEE STEPANOV IN WASHINGTON. ACCOUNTS DO NOT MENTION CIRCUMSTANCES OF SHOOTING.

-- PRAVDA AND KZ RUN STORY ON SPREAD OF U.S. AVIATION COMPANIES' SCANDAL BY USING NEWSDAY REVELATIONS OF BRIBES BY GRUMMAN IN SALE OF F-14S TO IRAN IN 1975. ALSO ON DEFENSE FRONT, IZVESTIYA HAS NEGATIVE PIECE ON FORD ADMINISTRATION PRIORITIES ON OCCASION OF CONGRESSIONAL OVERRIDE OF FORD VETO OF \$56 MILLION HEALTH AND WELFARE PROGRAMS WHILE STILL PUSHING FOR HUGE DEFENSE EXPENDITURES TO FUEL ARMS RACE.
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-- PRAVDA CARRIES SHORT ITEM EXPLAINING REASON FOR RESIGNATION OF SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE BUTZ.

-- PRAVDA AND KZ HAVE SHORT ARTICLE ON APPEARANCE OF SOVIET AND AMERICAN ASTRONAUTS AT PRESS CONFERENCE IN TEHRAN.

-- PRAVDA AND IZVESTIYA HAVE A SHORT ARTICLE ON CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN NORMAL TRADE RELATIONS WITH CUBA.
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